

*The Board of Supervisors of
Contra Costa County, California*

In the matter of:
recognizing the Friends of Discovery Counseling Center for 50 years of support

Resolution No. 2023/202

The Friends of Discovery Counseling Center began in the late 1960's with a group of concerned community leaders who were noticing substance abuse among youth struggling with mental health issues in the community; and

Whereas, Discovery Counseling Center, the oldest nonprofit organization in the San Ramon Valley, was thus started in 1969 with a single counselor, Peter Strauss, counseling kids after school in the Foster Freeze parking lot in Danville; and

Whereas, Soon, garage sales were not generating the revenue necessary to meet the growing need for mental health support, a group of community leaders asked a community-minded mother, Marge Early, to develop a fundraising base for this grassroots counseling service, Early borrowed \$600 from her mother and with the help of her friends started the Friends of Discovery Auxiliary; and

Whereas, Everyone thought a thrift store in Danville was the craziest idea ever. The doors to the first Thrift Station opened in April 1972 in the back of the Danville Hotel marking the start of what would become a truly incredible operation, and eventually one of the ten most successful 100% volunteer retail operations ever in Danville. Within a month, the Friends had not only repaid the loan to Early's mother, but a month later presented the Discovery Center with a check for \$500; and

Whereas, To date the Friends of Discovery, through the Thrift Station's sales of donated goods, have raised over \$11,687,000 in direct support of counseling services at Discovery Counseling Center. Without the Friends, the Center would have had to close its doors long ago; and

Whereas, The impact this amazing group of volunteers has had on mental health and community health in the San Ramon Valley simply cannot be overstated.

that the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors does hereby honor and congratulate the **Friends of the Discovery Counseling Center for their 50 years of dedicated service to the San Ramon Valley, and the County of Contra Costa.**

JOHN GIOIA

Chair, District I Supervisor

CANDACE ANDERSEN

District II Supervisor

DIANE BURGIS

District III Supervisor

KEN CARLSON

District IV Supervisor

FEDERAL D. GLOVER

District V Supervisor

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown.

ATTESTED: May 23, 2023

Monica Nino, County Administrator

By: _____, Deputy